

SHIMER COLLEGE RECORD

Alumni News



MAY QUEEN'S PROM

July, 1951

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Shimer College Record

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VOLUME 43

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NUMBER 3

Editor, A. BETH HOSTETTER

COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND

On June 3 Shimer College celebrated the first birthday of its new name at its ninety-eighth annual commencement. Shimer is a husky infant, able to blow out its own birthday candles and carry on with the family activities: class day, library sing, alumni dance and baccalaureate at the Baptist church. Only one thing it could not do, grant the diplomas which were given to the twenty eight graduates of Frances Shimer College who had finished their prescribed curricula.

It was a pleasant weekend. The alumnae who returned seemed to enjoy themselves though it is hoped that many more will return next year. Aside from local and county alumnae who enjoyed the Commencement activities were the following: Rose Lane Leake, '06, and her daughter and two grandchildren from Amboy, Ill.; Janet McCurrach Massman, '31, of Winnetka, her daughter, Janet, six years old, and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. David McCurrach from Dundee, Ill.; Jeanette Puzey Belton, '31, and her daughter from Indianola, Ill.; Elizabeth Carr, '26, from Chicago and Laurel Phillips Christenson, '26, from DeWitt, Iowa; Florence Keiser, '25, from Danville, Ill.; Josephine H. Smith, '41, from Chicago, and Elizabeth Nilson, '43, of Evanston; Priscilla Schoen, '49, from Brookfield, Ill.

The annual meeting of the National Alumni Association was held on June 2 with Ellen Francke Irwin, National President, presiding. Miss Hostetter, Director of Alumni Activities, gave the

treasurer's report for the year 1950-1951. Eileen Johannson, National Treasurer, was unable to be present to give the complete report for her office. For this reason the National Alumni Scholarship regularly presented on Class Day could not be awarded. A summary of the financial report for the year follows:

Jan. 17, 1951—Cash on hand	
in Chicago	\$ 857.96
June 1, 1951—Received from	
dues Nov. — May ..	\$114.00
Received from Endowment Fund	
(15% of total receipts)	69.30
Cash on hand at	
Shimer	\$183.30
Total in Treasurer's account ..	\$1041.26

It was agreed that according to the usual practice half of the annual dues received should be paid to Shimer College to help with the publication of the Alumni News.

In the November, 1948, issue of the Alumni News there was given a report of the plan for the sale of magazines, the income from which was to be controlled by the Alumni Association and used for some campus beautification project. Mr. Fetterolf, Business Manager of the College, presented the following report at the Alumni meeting.

"Net income from the project, (which was completed effective May 1, 1951), is \$411.62. Reason for abandonment—the amount of time required to take care

of the necessary details incident to the operation of the agency made it a losing proposition. All the work was done by school staff, and since the staff has been cut to a minimum, we have no one who has time to devote to a project of this kind."

At the meeting on June 2 it was agreed to turn the money from the magazine project over to the College to be applied on the redecorating of the College Dining Hall.

AWARDS AND HONORS

The following awards and honors were given at the Commencement Exercises on June 3, 1951.

Elizabeth Percy Konrad Trophy for Excellence in English, *Nancy Hommedew*; The Anne McKnight Vocal Prize, *Maurita Manworren*; The Dickerson Art Prize for Excellence in Graphic Arts, *Phyllis Butcher*; The Schwing Piano Prize, *Leah Thorpe*; The Art Club Award, *Tom Tallman*; The Dramatic Club Prize for Excellence in Play Production, *Jill Mickelson* and for Excellence in Acting, *Billie Dee Howe*; The Spinti Art Prize for Excellence in Painting, *Joyce Stuart*; The Ileen Bullis Campbell Prize for Excellence in Social Science, *Elsie Yamamoto*; The Phi Theta Kappa Scholastic Prize given by Jessie Miles Campbell, *Patricia Browne*; The Dearborn-Anne McKnight Scholarship, *Vera Eckert*; The Samuel James Campbell Athletic Trophy for Excellence in Athletics, *Roberta Patterson*.

Scholastic Honors—*Patricia Browne, Phyllis Butcher, Vera Eckert, Nancy Hommedew, Jerome Kristian*.

Phi Theta Kappa—*Patricia Browne, Phyllis Butcher, Vera Eckert, Collan Kneale, Jerome Kristian, Mary Lou Lundgren, Kay McLaughlin*.

Among the students graduating there were two who had attended Shimer for the four year course, *Jill Mickelson* and *Louise York*.

The exercises were held on the north campus. Dr. Brumbaugh gave the Com-

mencement address. The Baccalaureate address was given at the Baptist Church by Dr. Merrill L. Hutchins.

FOUNDER'S DAY . . .

Faculty and students celebrated the 98th anniversary of the founding of Shimer College on May 11, 1853, in the traditional manner with a picnic at the city park and a brief ceremony at the grave of Mrs. Shimer in the Mt. Carroll cemetery. The "dedication" which follows was written for this occasion by Jacqueline Oriet Kramer, '43, and read by Keith Winkleman, a Shimer College Sophomore.

DEDICATION

SHIMER COLLEGE IS 98 YEARS OLD

On May 11, 1853 Frances Ann Wood opened the doors of the Mount Carroll Seminary, and since that time, in spite of many social and economic upheavals in our country, and in the world, those doors have remained open. We are indeed grateful to Mrs. Shimer for her loyal devotion and foresighted courage which made our school possible.

Shimer has changed through the years. Students have come and gone. Old and established traditions have given away to other traditions which in their time must also give way to the new. Educational procedures have been tried and established. Some have remained, some have been replaced.

But one thing always remains — one thing which has no definition, but which is felt and captured and carried away by every person who comes in contact with our school — and that is the Shimer spirit — that extra something which can never be replaced or destroyed, which places our school above mediocrity. We all feel that spirit and are glad and grateful that we are students on our beautiful campus. We are glad that we have been associated with our teachers and administrators, many of whom have given their time and talents to the college for many, many years. These people

ave the Shimer spirit and have helped perpetuate it through the years.

And let us be grateful to Mrs. Shimer, who had the vision for a school, prayed for that vision and then worked to make the prayers come true.

At the close of the reading Sue Purciull, '51, placed flowers on the grave and Joretta Chermak, '51, led the group in singing the Alma Mater.

ALUMNI CHAPTERS

The Alumni Chapters have been active during the past year. Two meetings of the National organization have already been reported in the "News." The Carroll County Chapter has held bi-monthly meetings which have been well attended and is giving a scholarship of \$100 to an incoming college student. The Chicago luncheon in May was attended by 60 alumni and guests and the group is ready to start on their fall and winter plans. Ruth Cornelius sent the following fine report of the meeting of the California group in May.

"On May nineteenth, 34 members of the California Alumnae Association and their guests honored Founder's Day with an informal luncheon in the patio of Pauline Hayward Kreuter's lovely home on Foothill Boulevard in Arcadia. Helen Carr Brown planned and prepared the menu which included the annual birthday cake and ice cream. A short business meeting was held to elect officers for the coming year. A unanimous vote was cast to send twenty-five dollars to the Shimer College Scholarship fund. The meeting was then turned over to Helen Huntoon Walker who outlined and most entertainingly pictured the high points of her recent world tour."

OFFICERS FOR 1951-'52

NATIONAL ALUMNI:

Pres.—Ellen Francke Irwin, '40
Vice-Pres.—Evelyn Spealman Senneff, '27
Sec.—Priscilla Schoen, '49

Treas.—Thelma Fox Hommedew, '20
CHICAGO CHAPTER:

Pres.—Josephine H. Smith, '41
Vice-Pres.—Berthan Jansey, '47
Secy.—Joan Martwick Jensen, '47
Treas.—Eileen Johannsen, '41
Exec. Com.—Nancy Newell, '48, Shirley Bruns Thomas, '39 and officers

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER:

Pres.—Lucille Whitman Shellinger, '20
Vice-Pres.—Jeanette Shiveley
Gingerick, '05

Sec'y-Treas.—Ruth Cornelius, '22

CARROLL COUNTY CHAPTER:

Pres.—Hazel Voltmer Heyer, '28
Vice-Pres.—Roberta Garvey
Colehour, '50
Sec.—Lois Dixon Richter, '48
Treas.—Priscilla Schoen, '49

NEWS

● From a letter recently received from Mr. Bro, Djakarta, Indoesia:

"Margueritte and I have just returned from a trip to East Java and the famous island of Bali. We planned the trip to include our 33rd wedding anniversary—a little late for a honeymoon trip.

"While in Surabaya I called on Mr. Markovitz and learned that Marika was at home. We quickly arranged a visit at the hotel and had a happy time of Shimer memories. Marika was as enthusiastic and gay as ever. She asked many, many questions about former classmates, more than I could answer.

Early in July Marika will leave for Holland where she will get married this fall and then live in an apartment in Amsterdam. I will secure her address later. She is very eager to hear from some of her friends. It was a strange and happy experience to meet a Shimer girl in such a far away place. I believe she is the only girl we ever had from Java."

From Frankfurt, Germany:

● Suzanne Decker Erdmann, '38, has written the following interesting bits of news:

"It seems a long way from Shimer to our present home in Frankfurt A/M, Germany. I never thought I'd have much need of my German after leaving Shimer, but it's invaluable here now. We have been here a year and a half, and except for the climate we like it very much. In fact we're happy to be here a while more.

After living in a typical, small, modern house, it's nice to spread out in ten big rooms, with no housework. The government furnishes us a housemaid and we have a nurse for the three children. Neither maid speaks English, so we hear and speak only German all day. The girls, Gwen, three, and Molly, six, speak perfect German. It's southern German, but if I spoke as we learned in school no one could understand me. I had to relearn all my pronunciation.

"In October I flew to Washington with Jimmy, the baby, and was there six weeks while he was in Walter Reed Hospital. After the war scare, jittery nerves, and pessimists in Washington, D.C. it was a relief to return here where all is calm."

Suzanne's address is: Mrs. G. E. Erdman, % Capt. G. E. Erdmann, 0964725, 97 General Hospital, A.P.O. 757, % Postmaster, New York, N.Y.

From Wooster, Ohio:

• Marian Freed has written from College of Wooster, Ohio:

"Oh, how I miss Shimer — the fellowship with the girls and the personal guidance of the faculty. Really, it all has meant so much to me and will continue to do so.

My two years in the College of Wooster have been happy also. The spirit among the students is most cordial. In January of 1952, I will graduate with a Bachelor of School Music Degree plus a minor in English. I am having to go an extra semester due to the fact that only twenty-six of the fifty-two cred-

its transferred from Shimer are needed to receive my music degree. Even though I have fallen behind, I would not have given up those two wonderful years at Shimer for anything in the world.

As I stated previously, I will be receiving a music and English degree upon graduation, but I have decided to continue my studies a year by attending a seminary to prepare myself for religious education work."

From Menlo Park, California:

• Ida Gurney Kelley, '37, visited campus last fall and gave news of her many activities since leaving Shimer. She wrote in March: "I was pleased to receive the Alumni News last month. I noted a complete lack of news from my class of '37. I thoroughly enjoyed my visit with you last November. The campus was as lovely as I remembered it and all the improvements are most remarkable.

Last month I was practically drafted into a job as histo-pathologist at the San Mateo County Hospital near here. The work is always interesting and the other laboratory workers are quite congenial. So far I have one apprentice to teach. We all have to sign loyalty oaths."

From Fremont, Nebraska:

• Jeanne Boyd, '11, was invited a year ago last spring to contribute works for the First International Festival of Women Composers to be held in Basle, Switzerland, in September 1950. Seventy composers from 12 countries submitted 165 compositions from which a jury selected 19 works for performance. These compositions were presented in two concerts. Two of the 14 Americans who submitted works were represented in the concerts. Jeanne Boyd was one of these two. Her composition, "Eleventurous Dances" (Eleven Daring Dances) for two flutes, clarinet, string quartet and piano closed the final concert of the Festival.

Jeanne has for many years been on the faculty of the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago. She spent last winter with her mother in Fremont, Nebraska, appearing as lecturer and accompanist and continuing her work as a composer.

From Texas:

● The following letter from Lois Miller Landa, 7320 Staffordshire, Houston, Texas, sounds much like the fulfillment of the boarding school girl's dream.

"First of all, I would like to tell you how very much the Shimer Alumni newspaper means to me . . . it is certainly grand hearing about the girls that I attended school with, and hearing of the college's activities.

February 4th, of this year, I was married to L. M. Landa Jr. of Houston, Texas. We were married in Sioux City, and Joni came there for our wedding. At that time, she met my husband's best friend, Milton Scheps, also from Houston. It was certainly a romantic setting . . . a wedding, and their two best friends marrying. True to a story-book romance, Joni and Milton have followed through! They are to be married May 6th! L. M. and I are delighted beyond words, and feel quite proud of this match! And Joni and I are really thrilled since we will be living in the same city! And not only that, but we will be related . . . L. M. and Milton are cousins!

Note: "Joni" is Joan Stern, '48.

OBSERVATIONS BY PRESIDENT BRUMBAUGH

Time and again I am asked how well the new program at Shimer has gotten under way. It is difficult to arrive at any conclusive judgment on the basis of one year's experience. Also, one's impression of the success of the program will depend on what factors he considers important. From my point of view the results are, on the whole, very gratifying. I say this because the faculty entered into the program with vigor and

enthusiasm; the students made a commendable showing on the comprehensive examinations; the best scholarly and social traditions of the campus have been preserved, even accentuated; and nearly all of the "new plan" students will return next year.

Like all private colleges, Shimer feels the impact of declining enrolments and rising costs. While the enrolment prospects for next year are encouraging, present indications are that the total enrolment will be less than the number we can adequately accommodate. Aid on the part of friends and alumni in increasing our enrolment is an immediate and practical means of lending support to Shimer.

FACULTY NEWS NOTES

Mrs. Ruth Reynolds Hines and Frederick J. Rhodes, Sr. were married on May 29, in the Baptist Church in Mt. Carroll. The bride's attendant was her daughter, Mrs. Lawrence Muehling of Schnectady, N.Y. and the best man was Fred J. Rhodes, Jr. Mrs. Rhodes has been associated with Shimer College for the past eight years. Mr. Rhodes of the Rhodes Brothers lumber firm has resided all his life in Mt. Carroll. The couple are residing at 406 So. College St., Mt. Carroll.

Marcella Roberts, instructor in physical education for the past two years, resigned in March to join the army special services and has been receiving training in physio-therapy, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas. Miss Mildred Jaynes, director of Glengarry Farm Stables, and formerly physical education instructor at Shimer, took over the girls' physical education classes for the remainder of the year.

Jacqueline Oriet Kramer, instructor in dramatics for the past four years is leaving early in July for Nuremberg, Germany, where she will be Dramatics Director under Special Services of the Army.

Ellen Birkett, instructor in biological sciences, and Philip Tripp, English instructor, are doing work this summer at the University of Chicago.

Robert E. Keohane, instructor in social science, and Mrs. Keohane are at their summer home in Three Oaks, Mich. working on a high school text for social science.

Blendon Kneale, art instructor, will leave early in July for an eight weeks course at the Ogunquit School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine. He will be studying with Ernest Fiene, Robert Laurent and other outstanding American artists. He expects to visit other art schools in New England and especially on Cape Cod during the summer. Mrs. Kneale hopes to join him in August for the return trip.

BIRTHS

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Weidman, (Suzanne Martindale, '48) announce the birth of two children, a son, Douglas, born July 26, 1949 and a daughter, Julie Ann, born November 15, 1950.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Manchee, (Shirley Miller, '44) announce the birth of a daughter, Linda Louise, on May 9, 1951.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Greenawalt, (Jeanne Gross, '46) announce the birth of a son, Stephen Lance, on June 6, 1951.

Mr. and Mrs. Lennox Birkhead, (Nancie Lee Sawyer, '47) announce the birth of a daughter, Lennan Sue, February 16, 1951.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ahlgren, (Elizabeth Cutler, '45) announce the birth of a son, David Cutler, on May 2, 1951. They have also a son, Joey, age two and a half.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Phillips, (Betty Seitner, '40) announce the birth of a daughter, Camilla Elizabeth, on April 11, 1951. There are two other children in the family, Todd, age 7, and Anne, age 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Holman, (Suzetta Petty, '36) announce the birth of a second daughter, Betty Jane, on January 13, 1950.

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Mason, (Joan Armour, '49) announce the birth of a daughter, Ann, on March 13, 1951.

Mr. and Mrs. Julian Markels, (Bobbie Stone, '44) announce the birth of a son, Alex Steven, on April 4, 1951.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Gilomen, (Betty Wells, '45) announce the birth of a daughter in September, 1950.

Dr. and Mrs. Allan Weiss, (Donna Ziebell, '48) announce the birth of a daughter, Joy Dee, on March 8, 1951.

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell D. Avery, (Barbara Droste, '47) announce the birth of a daughter, Margo Elaine, on May 21, 1951.

MARRIAGES

Alta May Parrish, '49, to Donald F. Lavicka, June, 1951. At home in Stockland, Ill.

Dorothy Burtch, '35, to Lt. Cdr. W. V. Harlin, U. S. Navy, July 8, 1950, at Chula Vista, Calif.

Mary Verna Gleim, '35, to Lawrence M. Nielsen, March 21, 1951, at Arlington, Iowa. At home after April 1, in Hardy, Iowa.

Martha Sawyer, '49, to Gerald L. Huckbody, June 16, 1951.

Marye Siegert, '49, to Lambert R. Dralle, June 16, 1951.

Jan Eaton, '43, to Richard T. Burrell, June 16, 1951.

Maurine Roske, '40, to Lawrence H. Canan, June 2, 1951.

Lisbeth Ann Jones, '51, to David O. Blackburn, June 9, 1951.

Jean Brigham, '51, to Lyle Webster on March 31 in Key West, Fla.

Lois Miller, '47, to L. M. Landa, Jr. in Sioux City on February 4, 1951.

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Mount Carroll, Illinois

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NEWS NOTES MEMO

Date.....

From:

Name..... Class Year.....

Address

What Happened? — To Whom? — When? — Where?

Mail this memo to A. Beth Hostetter, Alumni Office,
Shimer College, Mt. Carroll, Illinois